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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Michael J. ROSSI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/851,247 /

Group Art Unit: 2872

Confirmation No.: 3007

Examiner: Not Yet Known

Filed: May 9, 2001

For: GEL-SWELLABLE LAYERS ON FIBERS, FIBER RIBBONS AND BUFFER TUBES

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time of five (5) months, extending the time for responding to the Office Action of July 2, 2001 to February 2, 2002.

A check for the statutory fee of \$1960.00 is attached. Please charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

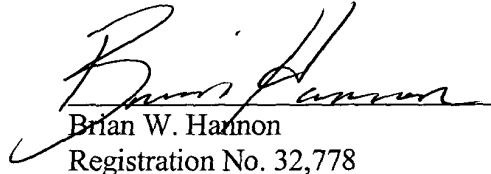
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Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 4, 2002